

New U.S. Patent Application
Amdt. dated January 5, 2004

Docket No. K-0601

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 8 is amended. Prompt examination and allowance in due course are respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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